

## **NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED**

### **MINUTES OF THE STATE OF IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 5-6, 2012**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Members present at April 5 committee meetings: Aiken, Bierne, Boothe, Davis, Henry, Leighton, Mantle-Bromley, Meyer, Nelson, Nuckols, Petersen, Pyron, Ritter, Rood, Rose, Sakota, Sauer. SDE staff present: Haas, Lackey, Linder, Markland, Rhodenbaugh, Schwab. Absent: Orthel. Guests: Bert Marley, Allison McClintick, Andy Snook.

Members present at April 6 general meeting: Aiken, Bierne, Boothe, Davis, Henry, Leighton, Mantle-Bromley, Meyer, Nelson, Nuckols, Orthel, Petersen, Pyron, Ritter, Rood, Rose, Sakota, Sauer. SDE staff present: Haas, Lackey, Linder, Markland, Rhodenbaugh, Schwab. Guest: Allison McClintick.

#### **AGENDA REVIEW/REVISIONS/ADDITIONS/APPROVAL**

The following item was removed from the agenda: NEW BUSINESS – A.  
NASDTEC/PPI Conference Attendance.

*Motion:* (Pyron/Davis---CARRIED) to approve the April 5-6, 2012, Commission meeting agenda as revised.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF FINAL ORDER BY FULL COMMISSION**

Deputy Attorney General Andy Snook presented a proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for consideration by the Commission. Andy reviewed the content of the proposed order and answered questions from Commission members. He also recommended the adoption of the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as presented and that the Commission enter an order revoking the certificate of Raejean Cates based upon her alleged misconduct and subsequent voluntary surrender of her teaching certificate.

*Motion:* (Bierne/Rood---CARRIED) to accept the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as presented by Andy Snook, enter an Order revoking the teaching certificate of Raejean Cates, and authorize Esther Henry to sign the Final Order on behalf of the Commission.

It is to be noted that, in the above-mentioned Case #21103, Commission members Becky Meyer, Karen Pyron, Anne Ritter, Shelly Rose, and Dan Sakota were recused from participation. All were members of the Executive Committee originally considering that case.

On another note, Andy expressed to the Commission the need for a revised, more efficient default procedure in ethics cases. He recommended replacing our single default order (that finds the respondent to be in default and also imposes discipline) with two separate orders (one in which the respondent is found to be in default and another that relates to sanctions). Such a revision would provide the respondent with the additional seven days' notice (as specified in the Administrative Procedures Act) that he/she is going to be held in default. Andy suggested that the Commission grant the Executive Committee chair and/or the chief certification officer the authority to appoint a hearing officer in default cases for preliminary matters.

Motion:        *(Henry/Rose---CARRIED) to have the Commission grant the authority to the chief certification officer in consultation with the chair of the Executive Committee to appoint general counsel for the hearing panel as a hearing officer in default cases for preliminary matters.*

Andy also expressed the need for a full-Commission adoption consideration process for ethics case stipulations that come out of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee chair signs a stipulation as a recommendation, but the full Commission is the decision-making entity that ultimately enters the order and thus needs to adopt a stipulation. The Commission's actions with regard to such a stipulation are limited to adoption, rejection, or making proposed changes for respondent consideration. Essential facts set forth in the stipulation can be clarified and questions about the adoption process in general can be answered, but there can be no discussion of facts outside of the document. Andy suggested that all of the stipulations for adoption at a Commission meeting be put on an agenda; reviewed ahead of time, and, barring any issues, adopted as recommended by the deputy attorney general, the Executive Committee, and the respondents. This stipulation adoption process will be piloted at the June meeting; Andy volunteered to be present for the process.

## **CONSIDERATION OF STIPULATION ADOPTION BY FULL COMMISSION**

Deputy Attorney General Andy Snook provided the Commission with the stipulations below prior to the Commission meeting. The stipulations were agreed to by each respective respondent and were recommended by Deputy Attorney General Snook and the Executive Committee for adoption by the Commission. The Commission members reviewed the stipulations in advance of the meeting and having no questions or requests for discussion, voted as follows:

Motion:        *(Pyron/Petersen---CARRIED) to adopt the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed in Case #21110 in the matter of the certificate of Dennie Rae Hatch.*

Motion:        *(Bierne/Nelson---CARRIED) to adopt the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed in Case #21116 in the matter of the certificate of Mandy Love.*

Motion:        *(Bierne/Davis---CARRIED) to adopt the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed in Case #21128 in the matter of the certificate of Rusty Earl.*

It is to be noted that, in the above-mentioned Cases #21110, #21116, and #21128, Commission members Becky Meyer, Anne Ritter, Christi Rood, Shelly Rose, and Dan Sakota were recused from participation. All were members of the Executive Committee originally considering those cases.

Motion: (Bierne/Mantle-Bromley---CARRIED) to adopt the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed in Case #21105 in the matter of the certificate of Brandon Owen.

It is to be noted that, in the above-mentioned Case #21105, Commission members Becky Meyer, Anne Ritter, Shelly Rose, Dan Sakota, and Karen Pyron were recused from participation. All were members of the Executive Committee originally considering that case.

Motion: (Bierne/Nuckols---CARRIED) to adopt the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed in Case #20908 in the matter of the certificate of Julie Zuck.

It is to be noted that, in the above-mentioned Case #20908, Commission members Anne Ritter and Dan Sakota were recused from participation. Both were members of the Executive Committee originally considering that case.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*The Commission APPROVED the February 2-3, 2012, Commission meeting minutes as printed.*

## **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Chair Dan Sakota reported that the Leadership Team met by teleconference on March 21 and then again at their morning meeting on April 5. They discussed the April meeting agenda; reflection letters from professional development grant recipients; and the budgets/budget concerns. Renominations (elementary classroom teacher, secondary classroom teacher, professional-technical education, and school board association) and one nomination (elementary school principal) to the Commission will be considered for approval at the upcoming State Board meeting. Dan reminded Commission members to provide him with their first and second preferences for committee assignment for the 2012-2013 school year. Katie Rhodenbaugh reminded Commission members that this April meeting is the time to plan the FY2014 budget. To assist in the effort, she distributed PSC Revenue/Expense Details for both FY2013 and FY2014 and also (for comparison) the line items amounts for FY09, FY10, FY11, and FY12. She requested that committees develop proposed budget line item amounts for FY2014; attempt to prudently reduce the budget line item amounts for FY2013 that were proposed a year ago; and that each committee chair provide her with copies of the FY2013 and FY2014 Revenue/Expense Details with the newly-proposed budget line item amounts written in.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Christina Linder (unless indicated otherwise) reported on the following:

1. The fourth teacher evaluation training for administrators will be held in mid-April. It is hoped that the next round of training will ultimately get administrators certificated through a very rigorous, validated process that will help them understand what effective teaching looks like.
2. There were, unfortunately, not enough ABCTE candidates who volunteered to participate in a cohort to pilot the Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA). Thought is being given to make this an ABCTE requirement through a university cohort or as a university oversight mentoring option, as a means of measuring the teacher performance of alternate routes along with traditional routes is necessary.
3. At the time of the February 2012 Commission meeting, a number of education deans met in Boise with a New Teacher Center (NTC) staff trainer to gather information on the possibilities of partnership sharing through what the center offers in terms of preparing people to provide oversight of teacher candidates and training university supervisors and cooperating teachers. Another meeting followed of higher education representatives and a number of school districts that have been very active in wanting to improve their induction/mentoring programs. On April 5, Region 3 higher education representatives and school superintendents met to discuss a type of professional development school model for such training to occur during a teacher candidate's senior year and continue on into the first year of teaching.
4. Christina distributed to Commission members the most recent list of characteristics of highly effective administrators that the Administrator Evaluation Focus Group has developed. At its next meeting, the group will be recommending the kinds of multiple measures that produce those characteristics, such as the understanding of instructional leadership; the ability to effectively and accurately evaluate teacher effectiveness; the capability of passing a proficiency assessment that proves the aforementioned ability; getting certificated in that ability; school climate, etc.
5. The Evaluation Capacity Task Force had a brief first meeting recently to set its direction as a subgroup of the Administrator Evaluation Task Force. This group will recommend valid measures for educator performance, support related professional development, and create a process for the monitoring of the evaluation systems in school districts. It is hoped that this task force can eventually transition into a Commission subcommittee to monitor the teacher and administrator evaluation process in the state and ensure that the evaluation model is being used with fidelity. Volunteers (especially classroom teachers and Commission members) are still needed to serve on the task force. Karen Pyron, Shelly Rose, and Laural Nelson volunteered for that effort. Christina encouraged any other Commission members who are interested to contact her.
6. The Department of Education is anticipating approval of Idaho's ESEA waiver application after seeing the peer-review comments on it.

7. Rob Sauer reported that an application is now posted on the Department of Education website for school districts to apply for professional development grant money for classroom technology integration. Grants will be awarded to assist school districts in providing professional development to their personnel, students, and parents regarding the integration of technology into teaching and learning. The maximum award amount is \$10,000 per district. Districts are collaborating and coordinating professional development activities among neighboring districts to maximize opportunities. A minimum of 50 grants will be awarded. There are also some mini-grants available for higher education. Applications must be submitted to the State Department of Education by April 15. School districts will be notified of awards no later than April 30.
8. Christina conferred with Matt Hyde, Parent Involvement Coordinator in the Department of Education, on a possible need for translating the Code of Ethics. It was decided that it is best to make districts aware of the need to make the *Code of Ethics for Idaho Professional Educators* and the complaint process accessible to all parents, including non-English-speaking parents. It was suggested that translating the Code of Ethics might be an appropriate student project for a higher education person or a high school class. Christina agreed to make all school district human resource directors and the PTA aware of the Code of Ethics/complaint process accessibility need.
9. Boise State University has established a Celebration of Teaching – Mentors of the Year Awards Program that recognizes excellent teachers and school counselors (not necessarily BSU graduates) who mentor in southwest Idaho public schools. In an effort to increase the communication regarding this recognition effort, Christina will provide Commission members with further information (dates, applications, nominations, etc.) for this upcoming event. Nominations for this are due by June 22.
10. The Idaho State Police (ISP) recently implemented legislation to raise its fingerprint fee by \$25 per set of fingerprints processed. Our \$40 certification fingerprint fee is set in statute and provides just enough excess for staffing to carry out the fingerprint process. An attempt to increase our own fingerprint fee to \$55 through 2012 legislation was defeated. The \$25 ISP increase would constitute a \$1.50 loss for us for every set of fingerprints done. ISP refused to retract its legislation. Meanwhile, we have an agreement with ISP that they will not raise Department of Education fingerprint fees until a less expensive way is found to do the fingerprinting or they are forced to pass the \$25 fee increase on to the department. In summary, a change has not yet occurred, but a change is inevitable.
11. Discussions are occurring on how data from teacher evaluations will be collected for ISEE (Idaho System for Educational Excellence), what should and should not be included, etc. Data that is being discussed includes how to record scores for observation, how to record information from parental input, information for each

teacher as it relates to student growth, and data on teachers that will provide metrics for consistent evaluation.

12. The Educator Development Suite, the Schoolnet program that we should have by July, is in the discussion stage. This is a software program that will track teacher evaluations, professional development, etc. and ultimately help teachers locate individualized professional development resources and support for teaching. Higher education accessibility to it is also being discussed.
13. The State Board will be hosting a two-day STEM Summit in Boise in May. The purpose of this is to bring together STEM education stakeholders to work on a roadmap for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in Idaho.
14. Christina attended the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) annual meeting in February, and Christina and Katie attended the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) conference in March. The main reason for their attendance was to obtain more information (what it will look like, what the expectations will be, etc.) on implementing common core in higher education preparation. Unfortunately, very little related information of value was provided.
15. There are two important meetings that Christina will be attending as part of a State Department of Education team. One is the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Summit, which is a convening around effective evaluation, what other states are doing in developing evaluation plans, and how to support and learn from each other. The other meeting is made up of all the states that have currently adopted the Danielson Framework; participating states will be supporting one another by sharing practices and maximizing resources.

## **AUTHORIZATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair Mikki Nuckols reported that the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Professional Standards Commission approve the following new Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement requests:

ALLEN, Brenda, Richard McKenna Charter #453, Standard Secondary-Government/Political Science 6-12

DRAIN, Sheri, North Star Charter #783, Standard Elementary-All Subjects K-8

HUNTER, Megan, Nampa #131, Standard Exceptional Child-Generalist K-12

KUNDE, Malia, Taylors Crossing Charter #461, Standard Secondary-Physical Science 6-12

LaMOREAUX, Kami, Kendrick Joint #283, Standard Secondary-Spanish 6-12

LEHMAN, Brittney, North Star Charter #783, Standard Secondary-Health 6-12

LOOSLI, Amanda, Xavier Charter School #462, Standard Secondary-Biology 6-12

MATTHEWS, Lindsey, Lewiston #340, Gifted and Talented K-12

REX, Patrice, North Star Charter #783, Standard Elementary-All Subjects K-8

WATSON, Caroline, Boundary County #101, Standard Secondary-Health 6 -12

The Authorizations Committee recommended that the Professional Standards Commission approve the following renewal Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement requests:

FOSS, Kristin, Upper Carmen Charter School #789, Standard Elementary-All Subjects K-8 (2)

GULL, Colby, Challis Joint #181, Administrator-Superintendent (2)

MENTZER, Thomas, Upper Carmen Charter School #789, All Subjects K-8 (2)

RIENER, Tracy, Upper Carmen Charter School #789, Gifted and Talented K-12 (2)

Mikki also reported that the committee approved 6 Provisional Authorizations.

*The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Authorizations Committee.*

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Chair Esther Henry reported that the committee reviewed 36 (1 duplicate and 5 did not qualify) professional development grant applications and awarded 31 grants for a total of \$14,689. The grant applications were for participation in the American Mid-Level Education Conference in Portland; iPad 2s for speech/language pathologists; math activity books for a school library; books and ebooks for a professional learning community; participation in a Love and Logic conference; and participation in an AP Summer Institute to receive curriculum updates. The committee reviewed 12 grant reflections (all were positive) and also reviewed their rubric for awarding grants and revised it slightly. The committee has \$919 remaining in its budget for the current year; that amount will be rolled over to next year's budget. It is planned to award \$25,000 in grants in the fall of 2012 and \$25,000 in the spring of 2013. It should be noted that from 2009-2011, the committee has awarded a little over \$53,000 in grants.

*The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Professional Development Committee.*

## **BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

To help with budget revenue planning questions that Commission members have recently had, Cina Lackey distributed certification data from past years (renewals, initials, etc.) that was taken from department annual statistical reports. Included in that statistical data were the number of initial certifications for school years 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-the current date, with data further broken down by the states that applicants come from; school positions held; gender; active assignment; school activity group (administration, student services, and instructional services); traditional schools and charter schools; and size of district. The data for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 was limited, as detailed information for those school years is currently unavailable. Cina reported the number of certification renewals for school years 2006-2010. The average number of renewals annually is 3,905. At this point in the current 2011-2012 school

year, 781 renewal certificates have been issued; it is anticipated that there will be 3,100 more renewals during the remainder of this school year.

Budget Subcommittee Chair Beth Davis reported that for the month of January, revenue was \$21,150 and expenditures were \$21,111; revenue exceeded expenditures by \$39. Along with routine operational costs, there were the following additional expenditures: approximately \$400 in residual expense for the December Commission meeting and nearly \$3,880 for contracted investigative services and travel reimbursements for ethics cases.

In February, revenue was \$27,452 and expenditures were \$31,833; expenditures exceeded revenue by \$4,381. In addition to routine operational costs, the following expenditures were incurred: approximately \$6,100 for the February Commission meeting; \$284 to renew annual ASCD memberships for some Commission members; \$3,179 for contracted investigative services and travel reimbursements for ethics cases; \$3,820 to conduct the Professional-Technical standards review; approximately \$800 for Christina to attend the AACTE meeting and both Christina and Katie to attend the CAEP conference; and \$2,406.50 for the second half of FY2012 rent. In addition, a second recorder for Commission meetings was purchased, and an iPad keyboard/cover for Christina was replaced.

At the June Commission meeting, Christina agreed to provide job descriptions for positions within the Department of Education that are funded, in full or in part, with Commission dollars. Anne Ritter reminded members that the Commission has specific statutory budget obligations (investigations, standards, salaries, etc.) and that everything beyond that is discretionary.

The FY2013 budget line item adjustments/reductions were reported by committees as follows:

Professional Development Committee – reduce line item Professional Development Fund from \$52,600 to \$50,000; overall FY2013 budget reduction - \$2,600.

Executive Committee – reduce line item Printing (brochure/poster) from \$2,000 to \$0; reduce line item Investigations/Hearings/Training from \$30,000 to \$8,000; increase line item Contract Investigative Services from \$20,000 to \$39,000; reduce line item NASDTEC Professional Practices from \$11,000 to \$10,000; overall FY2013 budget reduction - \$6,000.

Authorizations Committee – maintain line item Authorizations at \$500; overall FY2013 budget reduction - \$0.

Standards Committee – reduce line item Prep Program Review Re-Write from \$18,435 to \$8,000; increase line item NCATE Representation Dues from \$3,650 to \$4,085; overall FY2013 budget reduction - \$10,000. The amendments made to the FY2013 committee budget are also proposed for the FY2014 budget.



## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Chair Kathy Aiken reported on the following committee discussion items (unless indicated otherwise):

1. Christina Linder provided committee members with a brief synopsis of the grant proposals submitted by five Idaho higher education institutions that have school administrator preparation programs. Each institution will receive a \$2,000 mini-grant to research an aspect of administrator preparation and the needs of current administrators. The research will be completed and data reported to the Standards Committee by October of 2012. The data will also be shared with the Administrator Evaluation Task Force to help them in developing a statewide framework for administrator evaluations.
2. The committee has been discussing replacing Praxis II test #0021 (Education of Young Children) with test #0022 (Early Childhood: Content Knowledge) as a requirement for the EC/ECSE Blended Certificate. Praxis II test #0690 is also required for the certificate, and #0690 will be regenerated to #0691, which will be available in 2013. It is thought that #0691 will be more blended in nature and likely better serve Idaho candidates. The committee decided to do nothing about changing the required tests in this area until they can review test #0691.
3. The calendar of Praxis National Advisory Committee meetings, Multi-State Standard Setting Studies, and test regenerations for the 2012-2013 test year is now available from ETS. Katie will email that information to the education deans and key contacts in the colleges of education at Idaho higher education institutions.
4. The committee in the past has had discussions related to the newly regenerated Spanish Praxis test. Additionally, world language experts in Idaho recently met to review/revise the current foreign language teacher standards. At that time, they recommended that the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency exam might be an acceptable alternative to the Praxis exams for world languages now required in the state. It was decided to convene a committee of Spanish world language experts to attend an ETS-sponsored state standard setting study, as well as a similar study of the ACTFL proficiency exam.
5. The committee discussed the proposed program review fee for NCATE institutions versus non-NCATE institutions extensively. Members were also provided with input from the deans' group on the topic. It was ultimately agreed that, considering the expense that NCATE institutions bear, it was a fair compromise to assess an annual fee of \$2,000 for non-NCATE institutions to partially defray the costs of program approval reviews.

*The Commission APPROVED the Standards Committee's recommendation that the state assess non-NCATE institutions an annual fee of \$2,000 to partially defray the costs of program approval reviews and to contribute to the state's expense of being an NCATE partner.*

Christina agreed to confer with a deputy attorney general to determine when the assessment will begin.

6. Faculty members from Northwest Nazarene University presented to the committee their new program proposal for an Online Teacher endorsement program. Committee members considered it a very comprehensive proposal with a matrix showing clear alignment to the Idaho Standards for Online Teachers.

*The Commission APPROVED the Standards Committee's recommendation of conditional approval of the proposed Online Teacher endorsement program of study at Northwest Nazarene University.*

7. At the June Commission meeting, Katie Rhodenbaugh will provide an update on the IDAPA changes approved by the 2012 legislature.
8. The Gifted and Talented endorsement does not currently require a passing score on a Praxis test.

*The Commission APPROVED the Standards Committee's recommendation that Idaho adopt the Praxis Gifted Education test #0357 as a requirement for the Gifted and Talented endorsement.*

9. Karen Pyron provided information on The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) National Principal Mentor Program training that she recently attended. This is designed to engage retired and experienced principals to give back to their profession by supporting new, newly assigned, or even experienced principals through mentoring. The program's two components are 1) the Leadership Immersion Institute, which is a multi-day event that teaches principals and other administrators how to integrate best practices in mentoring and adult learning with participants' experiences, and 2) the National Principal Mentor Certification Program, which is a nine-month Mentor-in-Training internship. Christina Linder will share this information with the Administrator Evaluation Task Force.
10. The committee is concerned with how Idaho's Praxis requirements are aligned to the new common core standards. A recent ETS alignment report shows alignment between both the Middle School Praxis tests and the Secondary English Language Arts Praxis tests and the common core. As additional Praxis-common core alignment reports from ETS are received, the committee and Commission will be made aware of them.

11. Christina reported to the committee on the school district predicament of having to choose between a great teacher teaching an elective course and a highly qualified teacher teaching a core subject. The committee agreed that it would be an acceptable and value-added practice for districts to have increased flexibility in assigning teachers for elective courses. Christina agreed to disseminate in a timely manner this new information to the school district personnel who require it.

*The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Standards Committee.*

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chair Dan Sakota reported that the Executive Committee met with Andy Snook, Shannon Haas, and Annette Schwab to discuss ethics case information.

Motion: *(Ritter/Meyer---CARRIED) to move the Executive Committee into Executive Session to review and discuss investigation records exempt from disclosure as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).*

Andy Snook reviewed the cases needing Executive Committee decisions.

Motion: *(Rood/Rose---CARRIED) to move the Executive Session of the Executive Committee into Open Session to vote on investigation records exempt from disclosure as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).*

Dan reported the following actions taken on cases:

Case #21030 - Acceptance of Settlement Offer  
Case #21119 - Letter of Concern  
Case #21121 - Letter of Concern  
Case #21130 - Letter of Reprimand  
Case #21131 - Indefinite Suspension (pending Utah decision)  
Case #21202 - Letter of Reprimand  
Case #21203 - Letter of Reprimand  
Case #21205 - Suspension with Stipulations

Cases closed: #20924, #21023, #21118, #21126, #21132, #21204, #21206

There are currently 7 cases under investigation, 9 cases pending stipulation/voluntary surrender, and 10 cases in which administrative complaints have been filed or are to be filed. It was requested that the full Commission be provided with samples of a Letter of Concern and a Letter of Reprimand at the June meeting.

The Executive Committee continued their discussion on the revision of the Code of Ethics for Idaho Professional Educators. Andy Snook reminded committee members that any document revisions must align with any rules and statutes currently in place. A subcommittee of three (Anne Ritter, Shelly Rose, and Christi Rood) was formed and will

meet with Christina Linder, Andy Snook, and Annette Schwab to work on the revision. Any revisions will be brought back first to the Executive Committee and then the full Commission for review/approval consideration.

The committee continued its discussion regarding the notification of school districts of final ethics case decisions. House Bill 564 now requires that employing school districts be notified of hearing panel final orders. Thought is being given to the possibility of expanding on that and simply listing all the final orders on a website for access by anyone. The committee also discussed a district's acceptance of a teacher's resignation versus the teacher being released from his/her contract and the possible guidance that school districts may need in this area. The committee requested that at the June meeting Andy Snook provide a sample letter with appropriate wording that a school district could give to a teacher who has requested release from his/her contract.

*The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Executive Committee.*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Commission Representation at 2011-2012 State Board Meetings**

Commission representation at upcoming State Board meetings will be as follows:

April 18-19 (Moscow – UI) – Cori Mantle-Bromley

May 16-17 (Boise – Board Retreat)

June 20-21 (Idaho Falls – EITC) – Mikki Nuckols

August 15-16 (Pocatello – ISU) – Dan Sakota (Diane Boothe/Laural Nelson – alternates)

October 17-18 (Lewiston – LCSC) – Cori Mantle-Bromley or Kathy Aiken

Dan Sakota requested that Allison McClintick get input from State Board of Education members on the necessity of having a Commission representative at State Board meetings in the future.

## **COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Items of interest in these meeting minutes that members may want to communicate to their constituencies include:

- Fingerprint fees likely to increase in the future – (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 10)
- Thirty-one professional development grants in the amount of \$14,689 awarded – (see page 7, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE)
- Change in Praxis tests for Blended EC/ECSE Certificate on hold for a year – (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 2)
- Annual fee for non-NCATE institutions – (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 5)
- Availability of a new Online Teacher endorsement at Northwest Nazarene University - (see page 10, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 6)

- Gifted and Talented Praxis test adopted – (see page 10, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 8)
- Flexibility of elective coursework– (see page 11, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 11)
- Change in Spanish proficiency test may be coming – (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 4)
- Code of Ethics for Idaho Professional Educators is being revised – (see page 11, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, last paragraph on page)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion:        *(Aiken/Bierne---CARRIED) to adjourn the meeting.*

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Mary Jane Markland, Secretary  
Professional Standards Commission

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Christina Linder, Administrator  
Professional Standards Commission